October 24, 2005

Mike Johanns

Dear Sir:

I have two suggestions on the 2007 Farm Bill.

The present Farm Bill should put a floor under farm prices. It is a failure due to the cost of diesel and fertilizer. Agriculture will go into bankruptcy unless two steps are taken. You can not live without oil and also without food. Agriculture cannot produce corn under \$2.00, \$3.25 wheat and \$5.00 soybeans and pay \$3.25 for diesel, \$500.00 per ton on fertilizer, and \$100.00 per bag corn seed. Solution is simple.

Immediately raise loan rates to \$8.00 for soybeans, \$6.00 wheat, and \$5.00 corn for the 2006 crop and new farm bill. Pay for this with a solid cap on support any farmer or corporation or any combination of these two can receive of \$200,000.00. Take out all loopholes. This would take away media complaints.

To solve our energy needs, copy Brazil. Mandate 30 per cent use of ethanol from corn or milo and bio-diesel from soybeans. This would create enough demand to raise prices to cost of production and loan rates I mentioned above.

It is stupid to depend on oil from the Mid East (Arabia) when we can grow our own energy. They proposed building a ethanol plant in SW Kansas. Take ethanol out of com and feed the byproduct to cattle and heat this with manure. This would make cheaper fuel then the oil we are buying now. We need a crash program to build enough of these plants to be self depended on energy. These plants could be built a lot faster then oil distilleries. We would grow our own energy. This would solve both are energy problem and agriculture price problem.

Sincerely,

Les Byner

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